EMIDIO ANGELO

EMIDIO ANGELO received thirty dollars for a large symbolic cartoon published in L'Opinione, an Italian newspaper of Philadelphia. The young artist devoted his three evenings of spare time out of the week to this commemoration of the death of Caruso, which attracted wide attention among lovers of the great Italian tenor. Angelo puts in four nights and full time every day as a soda dispenser, but in the scant time left to the study of drawing, has become proficient under Federal instruction.

Sketching Mussolini

Autographed Portrait of Benito Mussolini by Federal Student Emidio Angelo

"Nearly everybody has a hobby and mine is sketching prominent people.

"When I went to Europe last year my greatest ambition was to sketch the man about whom I had heard so much —Benito Mussolini. I had heard about many persons interviewing Il Duce and had read so many articles about him I had the impression he spent many hours every week being interviewed and sketched. But when I arrived in Italy I soon found out that I was wrong. For it took me a month to get the chance to sketch him.

"As soon as I arrived in Rome I inquired the whereabouts of Mussolini from the manager of my hotel. He told me Mussolini lived at the Palazzo Chigi. I went there at once, but was confronted by guards, who told me I could not enter without official papers.

Reproduction of design by Byron Robertson, Bureau of Engraving, Minneapolis.

to the many engagements Il Duce had. He furthermore told me dozens were ahead of me and I would have to wait my turn. So I waited for another two weeks.

"Then one morning the secretary called me at my hotel and told me that, if I could sketch the Premier in twenty-five minutes, I would be granted an interview that morning. I rushed over to the palace and the secretary led me into Mussolini's private office, where he was sitting alone at his desk.

No Time to Be Wasted

"As soon as I entered the room I gave Mussolini the Fascist salute. He returned it without rising. Of course, everything had been arranged by the secretary, and Mussolini knew what it was all about.

"The secretary pointed out the chair and brought it close to Mussolini. He asked me if the chair was conveniently situated and I replied that it was. Meanwhile, Mussolini was looking over his correspondence, acting as if there was no one else in the room. People often asked me why I did not attempt to say a word of greeting to Il Duce. Well, I felt I was there to sketch him and not to talk to him, and, furthermore, despite my seven years' experience in the work, I was so nervous I really didn't know exactly what to do. I couldn't forget that I was before one of the

WHERE FRIENDS COME IN HANDY

"At first I thought I would give up the entire project and for a week I just wandered about the city—sightseeing. One of the places I visited frequently was a large cafe near the Palazzo Chigi. Being able to speak Italian, as I am an Italian born in Philadelphia, I struck up acquaintanceship with several men who were impressed with the idea of a young artist having a great ambition to sketch Il Duce and coming to Italy from America to achieve that ambition. So one particular official gave me a letter of introduction to Commendatore Freddi, chief Fascist official in Rome under Mussolini. He in turn wrote me out a letter of recommendation to Mussolini's private secretary.

"The secretary received me courteously, but said it was impossible for me to make a sketch that day, owing

Story Illustration by Ernesto Angelo who recently opened a studio in New York in Associating Himself with McClure Magazine.

One of several color studies submitted by Robert B. Hoeckin, Fresno, Calif., Architect.

most powerful individuals in the world today.

"I started off with a rough pencil sketch of the general construction of the head. Then I went directly ahead with ink and completed the sketch within the time limit of twenty-five minutes.

"During this time Mussolini did not say a word to me but kept on reading his correspondence and answering the telephone, which rang twice. When I finished the sketch and handed it to Il Duce, he rose, patted me on the back and said, "Bravissimo," the only word he uttered to me during the interview.

"I asked him to autograph the drawing and handed him my pen, which he used to sign his name. Then he rang for his secretary, shook hands with me, and I was ushered out.

"Although hard pressed for time I was satisfied with the sketch largely because of the fact that it showed not the dictatorial Mussolini so often shown in photographs and on the screen, but Mussolini in repose.

"I prize my sketching of Mussolini most highly. Other prominent people I have sketched are William Howard Taft, William Jennings Bryan, Calvin Coolige, W. Freeland Kendrick, Will Rogers and Rudolph Valentino.

"This summer I hope to sketch Clemenceau and General Foch. If I have time to visit Spain I want to get Premier Rivera."

Designer for Bureau of Engraving Secures Fourth Place

Byron Robertson, of the Bureau of Engraving, Minneapolis, winner of the fourth prize, placed in the competition some of his unique designs for advertising which have won him